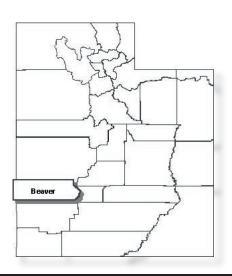
## **Beaver County**

## Local Planning Summary

Prepared for the:

Dixie, Fishlake & Manti-La Sal National Forests Forest Plan Revision Social and Economic Assessment



Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget 116 State Capitol Salt Lake City, Utah 84114 (801) 538-1027 www.planning.utah.gov

November 2003

## BEAVER COUNTY, GENERAL PLAN, 1998 (Amended) & FIVE COUNTY AOG, BEAVER COUNTY FACT SHEET, 1999

Summary & Key Issues	The local economy has traditionally been dependant on agriculture, grazing, and mining. Agriculture is still important to the County, but mining activity has been replaced by recreation. The Beaver County General Plan makes it clear that residents feel disenfranchised from the land use actions of the federal and state government. The County is interested in establishing an urban growth boundary.		
Historical Abstract	The local economy has traditionally been dependant on agriculture, grazing, and mining. Agriculture is still important to the County, but mining activity has been replaced by recreation and transportation.		
Economic Values	<ul> <li>11.3% of the total land area is used for agriculture [in 1998], (p.S&amp;D-10).</li> <li>The County is viewed as an ideal location for large-scale dairies and livestock operations, (p.S&amp;D-17).  <ul> <li>The establishment of high intensity agricultural operations have been a focus of economic development activity (i.e. Circle Four Farms).</li> </ul> </li> <li>The Elk Meadows Ski Resort and the County's excellent fishing and hunting attracts thousands of out-of-state visitors each year, (p.E-61).  <ul> <li>Hog production may become a stronger economic factor in the years to come.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Agricultural development in the County has doubled the number of jobs since 1980. However, it also has reduced the diversity of the local economy, (p.E-62).</li> <li>Goal III: Support the development of mineral resources as an important part of the economic base, (p.G&amp;O-68).  <ul> <li>Encourage natural resources developers to add value to raw products by locating processing facilities in the County.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

Social & Cultural Values	<ul> <li>"The people of Beaver County have concluded that a proper goal of comprehensive land use planning is to ensure community stability", (p.H-5).</li> <li>"In an environment where private lands are increasingly subject to arbitrary federal and state control and where federal and state properties comprise an overwhelming majority of the County's land base, that goal can best be achieved by empowerment, by protecting the property rights, integrity and independence of every citizen, and by making custom and culture an issue of local, rather than national consensus."</li> <li>"This plan should and does insulate Beaver County from the abuses stemming from national public policy and from the actions of those whose residencies lie beyond the County, but whose ambitions are directed at denying individual and local determination. These practices and policies of such outsiders constitute cultural genocide"</li> </ul>		
Forest-Specific Issues	"Picnic and camping facilities are available to the public in the Fishlake NF. BLM land in the western part of the County offer opportunities for off-road vehicle use, rockhounding, and other activities suitable to open desert lands." (p.S&D-10).		
Public Lands Issues	Approximately 7% of the County land is held privately, (p.S&D-9).  The Plan calls for the establishment of an urban growth boundary, (LU&GM-26&32).  The boundary surrounding Beaver City extends towards the BLM and Forest lands.  Goal IV: Continue to promote the use of multiple uses of public lands, (p.G&O-68).  Define how grazing, timbering, an mining are related to stabilizing the County's custom and culture; and define in real numbers how reductions or limitations placed upon these lands will fiscally impact the County's communities.		
Regional Demographic Issues	<ul> <li>The County has seen a steady growth in population, and it is expected to continue, (AOG p.1).</li> <li>"The projected increase in population is not expected to change the rural nature of the County", (p.S&amp;D-12).</li> </ul>		